Government are meeting the shortfall faced by NTC towards payment of wages and salaries. Once the BIFR approves the rehabilitation plan for NTC(Guj.) and funds become available; it is expected that NTC(Guj.) will be able to clear all outstanding terminal dues of the superannuated employees of its mills. In the meanwhile, the company is making efforts to clear the dues as far as possible.

Loan for Spinning Mills

1922. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the central financial institutions are willing to finance new cooperative spinning mills;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to pursuade the central financial institutions to sanction long term loan assistance to the extent of 50 per cent project cost to cooperative spinning mills in Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that financial institutions (FIs) would be willing to consider proposals from new co-operative spinning mills provided these are found viable and there are no defaults to the FIs of the existing co-operative spinning mills in the concerned States.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government of Maharashtra had advised the IDBI that 50 co-operative spinning mills would be set up in the State of Maharashtra during Eighth Plan period. Of these, 14 have so far approached IDBI and 20 have approached Industrial Finance Corporation of India Ltd. (IFCI) for assistance.

IDBI has reported that no assistance has been sanctioned by FIs so far, as it was felt that there was no scope for such a large capacity. In view of greater emphasis on exports. FIs have been giving preference to export oriented units promoted by persons with experience in the line and envisaging installation of most modern equipment to ensure production of yarn of international standard.

The working of the existing co-operative mills has been generally unsatisfactory and they have large overdues to FIs. IDBI has advised the Government of Maharashtra to clear the overdues of existing co-operative spinning mills and strengthen their organisational set up.

[Translation]

Computerisation of Banks

1923. SHRI SATYADEO SINGH :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to computerise the banks fully;

(b) if so, the target fixed in this regard; and

(c) the amount likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Computerisation of branches/offices of banks is governed by the industry level settlement dated 29.10.1993 between Indian Banks' Association and the bank employees unions. In terms of this settlement, banks can fully computerise their operations in branches which satisfy certain parameters set out in the settlement.

(b) As reported by RBI, the number of branches identified for total/full branch computerisation upto March 1997 is 2834. Out of this target, 1244 branches had been fully computerised as on 31st March, 1996.

(c) The amount to be incurred for full branch computerisation for industry as a whole cannot be quantified for the reason that the cost per bank branch depends on the size of the branch and several other factors.

[English]

Facilities in Growth Centre in Gujarat

1924. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the basic facilities provided by the Government so far in the various growth centres in each State particularly in Gujarat;

(b) the details of the work undertaken in these centres during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(c) whether some centres have not been able to start any development work due to non-availability of funds; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d). Under the Growth Centre Scheme, 1988 the growth centres approved by the Government of India are to be developed by the State Governments concerned through their implementing agencies. The growth centres would be end-owed with basic infrastructure facilities like power, water,